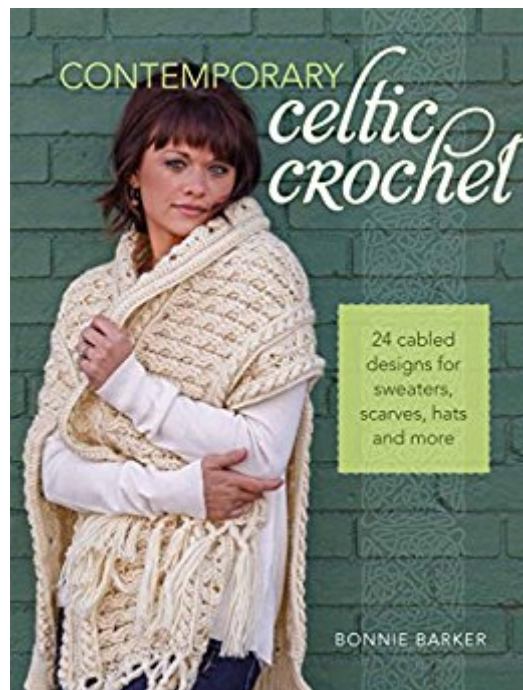




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Contemporary Celtic Crochet: 24 Cabled Designs For Sweaters, Scarves, Hats And More



Synopsis

Learn to crochet cables! Have you ever wanted to create a sweater with beautiful cables, but you didn't know how to knit? Now, in Contemporary Celtic Crochet, you can learn how to use basic crochet stitches to create the same stunning effect on sweater wraps, stoles, cardigans, and more. This book features easy projects, such as hats, scarves and device covers, and more difficult projects, including sweaters, wraps and blankets. Make the Hialeah Honey Baby Blanket to swaddle a newborn or create the Inisheer Sweater Wrap to stay cozy in cool weather. The Cables Meet Lace Cape is perfect for evenings out, and the Pennywhistler's Pack will let you carry your essentials on any day trip. These Celtic-inspired stitches and projects are the perfect addition to your crochet repertoire.

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Customer Reviews

I have long loved the beauty of Aran knitting and lamented the fact that I am not a knitter. I've crocheted for over 40 years and it's what I'm comfortable doing. Bonnie Barker shares in the introduction to this fabulous book that her love for these stitches led her to put together these spectacularly beautiful patterns. I am so happy she did, because I love this book. So much in fact,

that I'm buying another copy to give to my sister for Christmas. Right away Bonnie reassures the reader not to "run away screaming in fear from any perceived difficulty in any of these projects." The Aran stitches all use the basic chain, single, half-double, double, and treble crochet. We are taught, in step-by-step photographs, how to combine these fundamental stitches to create the Arrow, Baby Feet Toe Popcorn, Basket Weave, Big Toe Popcorn, Braided Cable, Cable, Celtic Cross, Celtic Weave, Diamond, Honeycomb, Knurl (Reverse Single Crochet), Shadow Box, Shell With Picot, Wheat, and Woven stitches. The photographed instructions also include all the basic stitches and how to make fringe. If we get stuck, we can access Bonnie's website for step-by-step instructional videos. Each project is given a degree of difficulty, starting with Easy and increasing up to Experienced, the difficulty rating is determined by the amount of specialized stitches used in the project, the more stitches, the more difficult the rating. Bonnie recommends starting with the easier patterns, such as a scarf, and then moving on to the more advanced as we become more confident. Practice, practice, practice. I particularly liked how we are given the exact yarns used in each project.

CONTEMPORARY CELTIC CROCHET is an amazing collection of crochet designs, many of which replicate the look and feel of knitted Aran cables. There are 24 pretty patterns (ranging from cardigans to head coverings, wraps, baby blankets, and more), each marked with the necessary skill level (beginner, easy, intermediate, experienced). The patterns call for worsted weight or DK weight yarns, and for standard crochet hooks in the sizes appropriate for these thicker yarns. My favorite design is the "Aran Diamonds Cardigan" (which can also be made as a vest by leaving off the sleeves), intended for experienced crocheters. The photograph shows a seated model, so it's a little hard to tell what the sleeves look like in motion. However, it appears that designer Bonnie Barker knows how to create good-looking crocheted sleeves that are more than simple tubes! I also love the Gaithersburg Stole, the Inisheer Sweater Wrap (shown on the book cover), and the Busking Beauty Sweater Wrap, all for intermediate crocheters. The "sweater wraps" are stoles with a back panel attached, a style of garment that Barker first encountered when visiting the west coast of Ireland. However, I would be willing to make and/or wear all of the garments and blankets included in this book. To get the Celtic crochet cable effects, you need to use some advanced stitches, but these are all explained in words, with step-by-step photos, in a 36-page "Crochet Stitch Guide" found at the front of the book.

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